The Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) to aid teachers and students in keeping abreast of geography behind current news events.

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

of
The National Geographic Society
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

The National Geographic Society is a non-profit educational and scientific Society established for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.

VOLUME XXXI October 6, 1952 NUMBER 1

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(SEE BULLETIN NO. 1) J. BAYLOR ROBERTS

IN INDOCHINA, A NEVER-USED TOOTHBRUSH ADORNS A MEO GIRL'S SOLID SILVER NECKLACE

Bulletin No. 1, October 6, 1952

Indochina Survives Another Summer of War

THE weird half-war that continues to hold Indochina in its grasp divides the land into two opposing military camps but strangely leaves some sections relatively free and unaffected.

Arrayed against each other are the French and their native allies on one side and the communist-backed forces of Viet Minh on the other. Unlike Korea, no single fortified line marks the front. Every doorway, rice field, and road is a potential battleground.

American Aid Reaches Viet Nam

In recent months the fighting in the southeast Asian land has occurred mostly in the north, where Viet Minh irregulars receive assistance from adjoining Red China. Some provinces in the south have been islands of peace. Other areas are twilight zones, safe by daylight but guerrilla-ridden by night. In such areas curfews keep city people home after dark. Villages close their gates. Watchtowers guard main roads. Bridges are small forts. Automobiles and trains bristle with armament.

French control, helped by American aid in the form of guns, tanks, and ammunition, is secure in the large cities. But a few miles beyond the limits of many municipalities, French military maps frankly show where Viet Minh control begins. There the communist guerrillas ravage crops, ambush travelers, and spread terror in lonely places.

In the meantime, the big cities get bigger and their people enjoy peace and good times. Most of the cities face the South China Sea and lie in the long coastal country now called Viet Nam. This country includes the former French colonial provinces of Tonkin, Annam, and Cochin-China. Cambodia and Laos complete the list of political divisions that take the place of old French Indochina. The three Associated States are working toward independence under French tutelage.

Saigon, Viet Nam's capital, recently has been one of the country's islands of peace. Bicycles, pedicabs, and small French cars flood the streets (illustration, next page). Outdoor cafés are crowded. This "Paris of the Orient" has tripled its population in the last 10 years. With its Chinese twin city of Cho Lon it holds nearly 2,000,000 people. The visitor finds that many of them live their lives in public. They regard the sidewalk as the continuation of their homes or shops. There they eat, wash, play games of chance, take naps, and run businesses.

Hanoi Close to the War

South of Saigon the watery Mekong delta makes one of the world's finest rice bowls. Miles of paddies fill the flat, fertile lands. Occasional banana and coconut plantations break the pattern. The Red River delta of ricelands, far to the north around Hanoi, has, with the Mekong region, caused Viet Nam to be called two baskets of rice hung on a shoulder pole. The pole is the Annamite Chain of mountains.

Hanoi stands close to the war. Tanks clank through the streets. Ar-

ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MATTER APRIL 27, 1943, POST OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D. C., UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879.
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B. ANTHONY STEWART

AT IDFU, FAR UP THE NILE BEYOND CAIRO, KARNAK, AND LUXOR, RISES THE IMPRESSIVE TEMPLE OF HORUS, SUN GOD OF THE ANCIENT EGYPTIANS

Desert storms and the despoiling hand of man, which have so nearly destroyed the pyramid unearthed at Saqqara (Bulletin No. 5), have largely spared this colossal Temple of Horus. It is one of the best preserved of all the buildings erected by the early Egyptians. The only apparent depredation is the erasure of the faces of the gods that decorate its walls. This was accomplished by the chisels of religious fanatics whose beliefs differed from those of the pre-Christian builders.

History and Industry Meet on Delaware River

THE Delaware River trickles from a duck pond and a mountain spring on the western slopes of the Catskill Mountains in New York to become one of the nation's most important avenues of commerce.

From a hillside source near Stamford, New York, flows the main (West) branch. The East Branch begins in a small pond near Grand Gorge. The two branches flow southwest almost parallel to each other for some 60 miles. Then the West Branch makes a right-angle turn to flow southeast and meet the East Branch at Hancock, New York.

Penn Described It as a "Glorious River"

From this point the Delaware zigzags southeast to Port Jervis, separating New York and Pennsylvania. From the spot where New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey meet, it becomes the boundary between Pennsylvania and New Jersey as it angles a generally southward course. After the river leaves Pennsylvania and flows between Delaware and New Jersey, it gradually broadens into Delaware Bay, an arm of the Atlantic.

William Penn, who founded Philadelphia at the confluence of the river and the Schuylkill, called the Delaware "a glorious river." The stream merits Penn's description. It is broad and majestic in its lower reaches and nearer its source it moves through mountain playgrounds and prosperous farming country.

The farmlands and mountains—through which the famous Delaware Water Gap cuts—contrast sharply with the great industrial cities which the river serves by deepwater transportation in its navigable reaches.

One of the world's largest steel mills, the Fairless works of the United States Steel Corporation, is rising from the green meadows of Bucks County, Pennsylvania. At Trenton, capital of New Jersey, a few miles upstream from the Fairless works, the world's first open-hearth furnace, the type in which most steel is made today, was set up in 1868.

The immense new steel mill will take water from the river, some 230,000,000 gallons a day. But the Fairless works will give better than it takes, returning 242,000,000 gallons of water, purified of industrial waste, daily. The increase comes from underground sources.

Carries Ships to Nation's Second Port

Near the sprawling plant lies the point where George Washington crossed the Delaware with 2,400 men on Christmas night, 1776, to rout the Hessians at Trenton. This stirring event of the Revolutionary War has been made familiar to every school child by Emanuel Leutze's painting.

Philadelphia, a short distance downstream, is crowded with historic shrines, including Independence Hall, the "cradle of the nation." Once the nation's capital, Philadelphia ranks today as its third city and the second port in tonnage of water-borne commerce.

Other industrial cities trading with all parts of the world in ships plying the Delaware are Camden, New Jersey; Chester, Pennsylvania; and Wilmington, Delaware.

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tillery pounds in the distance. The city is bursting at the seams with an increasing population. Six thousand refugees a month pour in.

Back in the hills and mountains of Tonkin and Laos a different life goes on. The Laotians are a simple and unhurried race. Their land is rich and uncrowded. The war has largely passed them by. Sprinkled among them are groups of Meo, Thai, and other tribespeople.

Meo men use flintlock rifles, the type that helped move America's frontier west 150 years ago. They wear pajamalike garments and braid their hair. The women (illustration, cover) pile their tresses in a high knot covered by a turban. Most of their wealth dangles from their ears and necks in the form of silver jewelry—up to 10 pounds of it. Meos farm the mountain tops. They cannot survive below 3,000 feet.

NOTE: Indochina is shown on the National Geographic Society's map of The Far East. Write the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C., for a price list of maps.

For further information, see "Indochina Faces the Dragon," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1952; "Portrait of Indochina," April, 1951; "Strife-torn Indochina," October, 1950; and in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, March 24, 1952, "Indochina Today Knows Both War and Peace." (*Back issues of the Magazine may be obtained from the Society's headquarters at 60¢ a copy, 1946 to date; $1.00, 1930-1945; $2.00, 1913-1929. Earlier issues at varied prices.*)

J. BAYLOR ROBERTS

BROAD AVENUES, FOUNTAINS, AND FINE BUILDINGS MAKE SAIGON "THE PARIS OF THE ORIENT"

Bulletin No. 3, October 6, 1952

Jungle Frontier Holds Wealth for Brazil

NEAR the heart of gigantic, sprawling Brazil, South America's largest republic, lies one of the nation's most promising but little-known frontiers. South of the lower Amazon, between the country's densely populated eastern bulge and the towering Andes ranges, a vast, fertile region awaits the pioneers who may one day make its riches available to the nation.

An airplane traveling from Barreiras, in the western part of the state of Bahia, 950 miles northwest to Santarem, 400 miles inland from the mouth of the Amazon, would fly over high, grass-covered plateau broken by jungle-bordered rivers and mountain ridges, dense tropical upland forests, and the nearly impenetrable jungle of the lower Amazon.

Only Fast Travel Is by Air

The first part of the flight would take the plane from Salvador (Bahia) into the northern plateau of Goias state. Into this sparsely settled area cattle ranchers and hardy farmers are already moving. These pioneers must either build their roads as they penetrate the wild country, or fly in to the few scattered airports now existing and build their roads out.

The airports are very important. They provide bases for the only means of rapid travel in the area. The rivers are navigable for small craft, but these are comparatively slow.

Crossing the Araguaia River from Goias to Para state, the plane would descend slowly over ranges of hills with such melodious names as Serra do Trifuno and Serro dos Carajas to the basins of two great tributaries of the Amazon, the Xingu and the Tapajós.

Here is true jungle—rainswept and dim. No cities intrude upon its silence. Its only inhabitants are Indians—some of them exceedingly hostile, some friendly. Crocodiles, lizards, monkeys, jaguars, numerous varieties of snakes, and insects by the million slither and leap and fly through its green gloom.

Luxury planes daily fly over the area, striving to keep high above its trackless wilderness on their routes from continent to continent.

Jungle Villages Are Few and Far Between

There are few settlements in this luxuriant hinterland and most of these cling to the banks of the rivers. A glance at the map shows great white spaces—wide areas where the crinkling blue lines that mark the courses of the rivers are uninterrupted by the name of a single village or town.

Hundreds of miles of shadowy, pathless jungle separate the settlements. The villages which have no airstrips can only be reached by slow, laborious river travel.

Rubber trees grow wild in the jungle. The region is known to have valuable mineral deposits which have not been developed. There is a wealth of such forest products as gums and resins, hardwoods, and fibers. Diamonds have been found in the river beds and in near-by alluvial soil.

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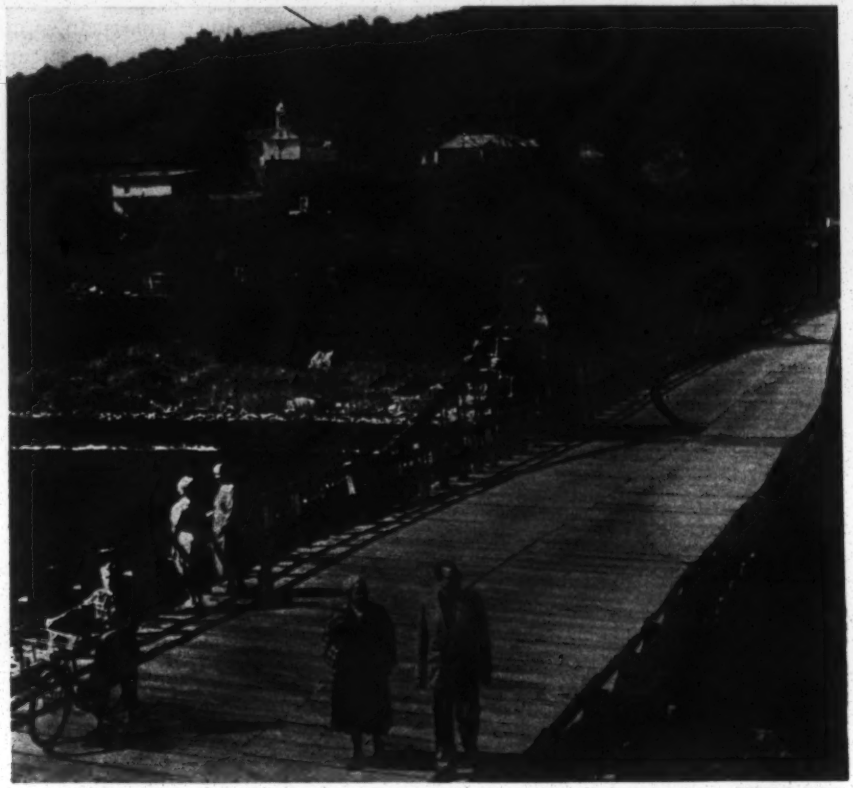
The Delaware is one of the nation's busiest and most important shipbuilding areas. Ways indent its banks at Camden, Chester, Philadelphia, and elsewhere. Over its watery highway tankers bring enormous quantities of oil to refineries lining the stream, and freighters serve great chemical plants along its course.

The Dutch, among the first settlers in the area, called the stream the South River to distinguish it from the Hudson, or North River (a name which Manhattanites still use). But the southern river's lasting name honors Lord De La Warr, first colonial governor of Virginia. He may never have seen the river, but there is a tale that a storm once drove into its broad mouth a ship on which he was sailing.

NOTE: The course of the Delaware River may be traced on the Society's map of the Northeastern United States.

For additional information on the region, see "Today on the Delaware, Penn's Glorious River," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1952; "'Delmarva,' Gift of the Sea," September, 1950; "The Mighty Hudson," July, 1948; "In the Pennsylvania Dutch Country," July, 1941; "Diamond Delaware, Colonial Still," September, 1935; "Penn's Land of Modern Miracles," July, 1935; and "The Historic City of Brotherly Love," December, 1932.



ROBERT F. SISSON

BARGES ONCE FLOATED WHERE PEOPLE NOW WALK DRY-SHOD ACROSS THE DELAWARE

More than a century ago this bridge began life as an aqueduct to carry the Delaware and Hudson Canal across the Delaware River. When the swifter railroads came to compete with canalboats, the waterway fell into disuse. It became a dusty, tree-shaded ditch and the stone-piered pathway which carried it from Pennsylvania into New York was planked over and transformed into a bridge.

Bulletin No. 4, October 6, 1952

Fairs and Festivals Fill Autumn's Calendar

AUTUMN, time of flaming foliage, is also the season for the farm fairs that have attracted Americans from early colonial times. For more than three centuries farmers and villagers have met to display their livestock, fruit, and vegetables, and to show off the handiwork of their wives and daughters.

From prehistoric days, harvest time has been observed with parades and pageantry, as well as with display of the crops. The Druids celebrated the harvest before the time of Christ. Roman festivals honored Ceres, goddess of growing vegetation. American Indians held festivals of song and dance to beseech the Great Spirit to send them rain and good crops.

States Celebrate Their Special Harvests

To this day descendents of these ancient tribesmen in the Southwest hold ceremonies based on the ancient rites. Visitors travel from all over the United States to see them. Two of the most notable are the All-Indian Pow-wow at Flagstaff, Arizona, and the Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial held annually at Gallup, New Mexico, to which come thousands of Indians of different tribes. Hopi, Zuni, Navajo, Apache, Cheyenne, and Sioux meet in peace and friendship to dance, barter, perform feats of horsemanship, and sell their handicraft—silver work, pottery, baskets, and blankets.

The white man's festivals include Maine's to honor lobsters, potatoes, and chickens; Louisiana's salute to sugar cane; Maryland's to the crab; Florida's to shells and citrus fruit; and Tennessee's to cotton. Michigan holds a cherry festival, Oregon one for the huckleberry, and Massachusetts for the cranberry. Farmers of New York's "black acres" in Orange County honor the onion.

Visitors from miles around flock to Santa Barbara for the annual fiesta recalling old Spanish days in the southern California city. In the Mother Lode region of northern California, Angels Camp includes in its annual "Days of 49" a re-enactment of a Pony Express ride and a jumping-frog contest after Mark Twain's famous story.

Italian Horse Race Features Middle Ages Costumes

Nor is fall the only time for fairs. Every April San Antonio celebrates with the Fiesta de San Jacinto the victory which gave Texas its independence. In February, Tampa, Florida, holds its annual carnival featuring a legendary pirate invasion—the Gasparilla Festival.

All these fairs and festivals bring people together for pleasure and profit. They are the outgrowth of customs handed down for thousands of years and from all over the globe. More than 3,000 years ago the people of Thebes celebrated their annual Festival of the Western Valley on the banks of the Nile in Egypt. Today the Italian city of Siena continues a three-century-old custom—the Palio. This event attracts visitors from far and wide to see riders, attired in costumes of the middle ages, dash their mounts through the narrow cobbled streets of the an-

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This rich and undeveloped section of Brazil has also been suggested as a possible breadbasket to supply food for world distribution. Its limitless acres of fertile soil and its warm, moist climate are well adapted to agriculture. But the jungle will have to be conquered before any large-scale farming can be established.

NOTE: Brazil appears on the National Geographic Society's map of South America.

For additional information, see "Jungle Jaunt on Amazon Headwaters," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1952; "Sea Fever," February, 1949; "Brazil's Land of Minerals," October, 1948; "Eclipse Hunting in Brazil's Ranchland," September, 1947; "Brazil's Potent Weapons," January, 1944; "Through Paraguay and Southern Matto Grosso," October, 1943; and "Air Cruising Through New Brazil," October, 1942.

See also, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, April 9, 1951, "Air Lines Put Iguazu Falls on Travel Routes"; "Amazon Marks Century of Commercial Progress," December 4, 1950; and "Brazil Is South America's Geographic Giant," October 30, 1950.

ALBERT W. STEVENS

THE JUNGLE PUSHES AN INDIAN HOME ALMOST INTO BRAZIL'S AMAZON RIVER

Bananas and cassava from the garden surrounding the bamboo hut, together with fish from the river and game from the forest, supply the Indian with food. The trackless jungle is a mighty barrier to development of the region's rich resources. The only access is by slow river boat.

Egypt Adds to Ancient and Modern History

AN echo from the distant past has recently added its murmur to the din of modern-history-in-the-making in the land of the Pharaohs. While Egypt adjusts itself to its new regime under the army general-turned-prime minister who has replaced the deposed King Farouk, a chapter is being added to the country's extensive ancient history.

A heretofore unknown pyramid has been unearthed at Saqqara on the edge of Egypt's Western Desert, 50 miles from Cairo.

May Date from 2700 B. C.

From the design of its foundations, it has been possible for archeologists to determine that it is a step pyramid like the near-by Pyramid of Zoser, the world's earliest known building made entirely of stone.

So-called step pyramids were built in ascending stages, each many yards high and narrower than the one under it. The "true pyramids," built later, had smooth surfaces. An example of the true pyramid is the Great Pyramid of Khufu, sometimes called Cheops (illustration, next page).

The recently discovered pyramid at Saqqara, scientists believe, probably was built for King Zoser's successor about 2700 B. C.

It was discovered late in 1951 by archeologists sinking trial pits into a vast expanse of sand. The uneven surface hinted at the possible presence of ancient buildings. The scientists found an enormous terrace 1,803 feet long and 558 feet wide. The remains of an enclosing wall surrounded it. One section of this wall was perfectly preserved.

Within the enclosure were piles of broken stone and masonry suggesting the temples, shrines, and secondary tombs which usually surrounded a pyramid. A pit dug in the exact center of the terrace uncovered three parallel leaning walls about 30 feet high. Walls of this type are used in the construction of a step pyramid.

Excavators Disregard Warning Curses

The scorching heat of the Egyptian spring halted work for a time and the dimensions of the central structure have not yet been discovered. It is expected that further excavation will reveal the burial chamber.

Egyptian officials say legendary curses will not stop excavation. The most blistering curses inscribed on many tombs were directed more against violators of endowments than against grave robbers. These endowments were set up in lands and revenues to insure prayers for departed souls. But dynasties rose and fell. Burial chambers were entered and robbed in spite of the thousands of tons of stone which blocked passageways.

The chief damage was done by lime burners and builders who used the pyramids as convenient quarries. They stole not only the masonry which surfaced the pyramids, but often the enormous blocks of stone which were part of the structure.

Superstitions and tales as tall as the pyramids grew up and are believed even today. Some think that the interior angles and dimensions of the Great Pyramid record history and foretell the future. An older belief that the inner passages were oriented for observing the stars is

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cient town. The pageantry of the race is more thrilling than the actual performance of the horses.

Little by little, over the years, the scope of the American fair has broadened to take in baby shows and beauty contests, ferris wheels, and such varied diversions as trotting races and precision dancers. Western fairs include rodeos. "Daredevils" on motorcycles hurtle over flaming barriers and are shot from cannon to entertain the crowds. But basically the fair is held for the interest and benefit of the farmer, the fruits of whose labor give it its serious and lasting attraction.

State fairs are important annual events from Maine to California and all over the nation county fairs (illustration, below) enliven the harvest season. Trade fairs too numerous to mention are held from Izmir to London and are becoming increasingly popular in the United States. America's innumerable conventions to some extent take the place of Europe's trade fairs. Rodeos are rife in the southwest as an added attraction at the livestock fairs which crowd the calendar.

NOTE: For further information on festivals, see "Pennsylvania Dutch Folk Festival," in *The National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1952; "Work-hard, Play-hard Michigan," March, 1952; "The Palio of Siena," August, 1951; "Carnival in San Antonio," December, 1947; "August First in Gruyères," August, 1936; and refer to "Fairs" and "Festivals" in the *Cumulative Index to The National Geographic Magazine.*

HOWELL WALKER

STOCKY BELGIAN HORSES WITH BLOND MANES PARADE PAST THE GRANDSTAND AT THE BATH (NEW YORK) FAIR. DATING FROM 1819, THIS FAIR IS A FALL ATTRACTION OF THE FINGER LAKES REGION

hardly more probable since the builders blocked the passages with hundreds of tons of stone. According to some ancient theories, the pyramids were the granaries of Joseph; others held that they were built as shelters to save people from Noah's flood.

The Roman author, Pliny, writing in the 1st century A.D., dismissed the pyramids as "idle and foolish exhibitions of royal wealth." But Khufu's Pyramid remains—the oldest and only surviving representative of the seven wonders of the ancient world, while for miles along the Nile temples (illustration, inside cover) and statues attract travelers and archeologists alike.

NOTE: The site of the pyramids may be found on the Society's maps of Bible Lands and the Cradle of Western Civilization, and Africa and the Arabian Peninsula.

See also "The Spotlight Swings to Suez," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for January, 1952; "Sinai Sheds New Light on the Bible," December, 1948; "American Fighters Visit Bible Lands," March, 1946; and "Daily Life in Ancient Egypt," October, 1941 (out of print; refer to your library); and in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, February 18, 1952, "Riot-Torn Cairo Outranks All Arab Cities"; and "Egypt's Deathless Sphinx Keeps Desert Vigil," October 15, 1951.

HAMILTON WRIGHT

NILE WATERS KEEP GREEN THIS GOLF COURSE IN THE SHADOW OF KHUFU'S PYRAMID

Although known as the "royal and ancient game," golf is youthful by comparison with the 5,000-year-old pyramid which towers beyond this course at the Mena House, a resort hotel across the Nile from Cairo. A camel serves as a handy moving grandstand for an interested onlooker. The caddy's voluminous robe is Egypt's most typical garment.